

STS-98 SRB POST FLIGHT/RETRIEVAL ASSESSMENT
KSC Debris Team
12 February 2001

The BI-105 Solid Rocket Boosters were inspected for debris damage and debris sources at CCAFS Hangar AF on 12 February 2001. Generally, both boosters were in excellent condition.

ANOMALIES

None

FUNNIES

The DCS Plunger was not fully seated on HDP No. 7. The plunger was prevented from seating properly by pieces of frangible nut.

OBSERVATIONS

The TPS on both frustums exhibited no debonds/unbonds. There was minor localized blistering of the Hypalon paint.

All eight BSM aero heat shield covers had fully opened and locked, but two LH cover attach rings had been bent at the hinge by parachute riser entanglement.

The forward skirts exhibited no debonds or missing TPS. The RSS antennae were intact.

The Field Joint Protection System (FJPS) and the System Tunnel Covers closeouts were generally in good condition with no unbonds observed.

Separation of the aft ET/SRB struts appeared normal.

Aft skirt external surface TPS was in good condition. Typical blistering of Hypalon paint had occurred on the BTA insulation close-outs and GEI cork runs.

The holddown post Debris Containment Systems (DCS) appeared to have functioned normally except on HDP No. 7 which had some ordnance/nut fragments lodged in. No indication of stud hang up was observed.

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